



Customer No.: 26308

Patent

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Gaiser et al.

Docket No.: 9222.17412-CIP 2

Serial No.: 10/017,906

Examiner: L. Thanh

Filed: 14 December 2001

Group Art Unit: 3763

Title: Systems and Methods Employing a Guidewire for Positioning and Stabilizing  
External Instruments Deployed within the Body

**AMENDMENT B**  
**SUBMITTED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

**The Examiner's attention is directed to the Information Disclosure Statement that accompanies this Amendment.**

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed February 9, 2005, which was designated a Final Action.

An automatic two month extension of time to respond, up to and including July 9, 2005, is respectfully requested. A Request for Continued Examination has been filed to respond to the Office Action and advance prosecution. The requisite fee accompanies this Amendment.